

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended.

Without acceding to the outstanding rejections, Claim 1 has been amended for clarity and to recite certain distinctive features of Applicants' invention with greater particularity.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the dynamic random access memory interface is arranged to connect to a first memory controller outside the memory module, and the static random access memory interface is arranged to connect to a second memory controller outside the memory module, different from the first memory controller. Claim 1 also now recites that when data stored in the non-volatile memory is to be outputted to outside the memory module, data stored in the non-volatile memory is transferred to at least one of the dynamic random access memory and the static random access memory, and then any portion of said data transferred to the dynamic random access memory is outputted to outside the memory module via the dynamic random access memory interface, and any portion of said data transferred to the static random access memory is outputted to outside the memory module via the static random access memory interface.

Note that in contrast to Applicants' Claim 1, Hiraki's CPU 10 directly accesses flash memory 11, DRAM 12, and SRAM 13. See Hiraki, col. 11, lines 57-64. Thus, data output from flash memory 11 is not transferred to either of Hiraki's DRAM 12 or SRAM 13 before being output to CPU 10 via a corresponding interface.

Hiraki also discloses that if repair information to be read from flash memory 11 to data bus 16 is N bits as a whole, the signal line of the data bus 16 is coupled to the data input terminals of the corresponding repair address registers 11AR, 12AR, and 13AR. Hiraki, col. 20, lines 41-50. This portion of Hiraki, however, is different from Applicants' Claim 1 because Hiraki's repair information is not outputted to outside the memory module (through at least one random access memory interface).

Accordingly, Hiraki fails to teach or suggest the features of Claim 1 discussed above.

The Tanzawa reference, which was used as a secondary reference to reject Claims 16 and 17, fails to cure Hiraki's deficiencies discussed above.

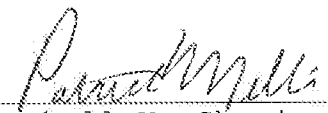
Accordingly, Claim 1 and its dependents distinguish patentably from the collective disclosures of Hiraki and Tanzawa and are allowable.

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (XA-10365) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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